was a play of hers on the same subject as " The School for Saints/' and another about Guizot

"February 11, 1898.

" **MY VERY** DEAR NELL,—

f(I have an idea for a real four-act comedy (in these matters nothing daunts me !) founded on a charming little episode in the private lives of Princess Lieven (the famous Russian ambassadress) and the celebrated Guizot, the French Prime Minister and historian. I should have to veil the identity *slightly,* and also make the story a husband and wife story —it would be more amusing this way. It is comedy from beginning to end. Sir Henry would make a splendid Guizot, and you the ideal Madame de Lieven. Do let me talk it over with you. 'The School for Saints J was, as it were, a born biography. But the Lieven-Guizot idea is a play.

" Yours ever affectionately,
"PEARL MARY TERESA CRAIGIE."

In another letter she writes :

*' 1 am changing all my views about so-called * literary ' dialogue. It means pedantry. The great thing is to be lively."

*(A first night at the rLyceum " was an institution. I don't think that jtt, ifas its parallel nowadays. It was not, however, to the yerdict of all the brilliant friends who came to see us on the'fi^st night that; Henry Irving attached importance. I remember some '9116 saying to him after the first night of " Ra^tewttd'" : " I don't fancy that your hopes will be quite faffiEed about the play. I heard one or two on Saturday night "

u Ah yes," said Henry very carelessly and

gently, " but you see there were so many *friends* there that night who didn't pay—friends. One must not expect too much from